

Today's News - Wednesday, January 9, 2008

Yemen gets serious about preserving a historic city. — A look at endangered New York treasures. — Beijing is choking on growth. — Lewis says as much as zoning and codes, aesthetics should be treated "as a matter of legitimate public interest subject to reasonable regulation." — Russell likes Nouvel's "imagery" for MoMA tower, but not at all pleased with "abuse of zoning device in the latest race for the sky." — Moscow's Crystal Island will sparkle - if it finds the financing. — Shipping containers transformed into Travelodges will look no different from typical hotels (aesthetically - no comment). — A new Palm Springs cultural museum is awesome (so they say - sorry - no pix). — At 91, a San Francisco modernist master revisits his brood of masterpieces. — A "tropical modernist" takes center stage at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. — Prouvé continues to dazzle London. — Abu Dhabi hosts World Future Energy Summit this month. — Call for entries: Promosedia's international chair design competition; deadline reminder re: AMD/Architecture for Humanity Open Architecture Challenge. — How could we resist: 6 proposals for Trafalgar plinth commission (our vote: "Faites L'Art, pas La Guerre" powered by the sun and wind).

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[World Heritage Site at Risk in Yemen: In 2000, UNESCO listed Zabid as endangered...architectural legacy...vanishing due to inadequate maintenance and scant preservation efforts...and lax regulation of new construction. In response, Yemen is limiting all development in the city and launching a new initiative... \[links to images\]- ArchNet](#)

[Endangered New York: 10 \(more\) to save: ...changes are so breathtaking that the question of whether the city is losing its very soul has been seriously debated among preservationists, community and civic groups. — Edgar I. Williams \(1955\); Morris B. Sanders \(1935\); Pier Luigi Nervi \(1963\); McKim Mead, & White \(1914\); Cass Gilbert \(1915\); etc. \[slide shows\]- AM New York](#)

[Choking on Growth: Beijing May Green for the Olympics, but Long-Term Forecast Is Gray- New York Times](#)

[A Public Arbiter of Good Design: A design-review process can never make less talented architects more talented. But it can motivate them to aim higher...likewise motivate developers to raise their aspirations and hire the most talented architects in the first place. In either case, the public benefits. By Roger K. Lewis- Washington Post](#)

[Nouvel's Super-Tall MoMA Tower Represents Ode to Zoning Abuse: ...75-story hotel and condo...I'm drawn to Nouvel's imagery -- the Hines tower could make an extraordinary impression on the skyline. Still, it's time to stop the abuse of this zoning device in the latest race for the sky. By James S. Russell- Bloomberg News](#)

[Moscow's Big Space Shot: Crystal Island Aims For Record in Size. If Money Is Found: ...supporters are hoping that it will benefit from the momentum of Moscow's surge in building over the past five years...faces competition from nearby developments. -- Foster + Partners- Wall Street Journal](#)

[Travelodge to build hotel with shipping containers: The modular method is set to save the group up to £10m a year...budget hotel chain claims it will look and feel no different to an ordinary Travelodge. \[images\]- Building \(UK\)](#)

[Committee in awe of design for Agua Caliente Cultural Museum: Work may begin this year on new \\$40 million 'landmark' — Jones & Jones Architects- The Desert Sun \(Palm Springs\)](#)

[Work of modernist Olof Dahlstrand revisited in the East Bay: If one's life could be charted like a graph, then the year 1934 would stand out as a pinnacle in the life of 91-year-old architect... \[images\]- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Hot Hawaiian 'Tropical Modernist' Architect Gets Honolulu Show: Vladimir Ossipoff's 1964 "War on Ugliness" didn't stop the mediocre high-rises from cluttering the beaches of Waikiki. Yet whatever architectural beauty the city boasts today owes much to Ossipoff's output...- Bloomberg News](#)

[Design Wizard Prouvé Dazzles in London Show: London's Design Museum...successfully uses all the media as well as full-scale reconstructions, film and models to entice you into Prouvé's mind.- Bloomberg News](#)

[World Future Energy Summit \(WFES 08\), Abu Dhabi, January 21-23- World Future Energy Summit \(WFES 08\)](#)

[Call for entries: Promosedia International Design Competition - Caiazza Memorial Challenge 2008: ideas for chair design; open to designers under 40; deadline: March 31- Promosedia](#)

[Deadline reminder: January 15 for AMD Open Architecture Challenge international competition- Architecture for Humanity](#)

[Artists vie for Trafalgar plinth commission: ...could be a burned-out car from Iraq, a scale model of HMS Victory, sky-reflecting mirrors or a 100ft-tall illuminated peace sign. Or meerkats. \[slide show\]- Guardian \(UK\)](#)

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